## WILLIAM R. KEATING 9TH DISTRICT, MASSACHUSETTS

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## Congress of the United States House of Representatives Washington, DC 20515

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April 28, 2022

The Honorable Rosa DeLauro Chairwoman Committee on Appropriations H-307 The Capitol Washington, D.C. 20515 The Honorable Kay Granger Ranking Member Committee on Appropriations 1036 Longworth House Office Building Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chair DeLauro and Ranking Member Granger:

I am requesting \$959,040.00 in fiscal year 2023 community project funding for "Cape Abilities Farm Vocational and Food Security Project" located in Dennis, MA. The entity to receive funding is Cape Abilities, Inc. with offices located at 895 Mary Dunn Road, Hyannis, MA 02601.

The Cape Abilities' Farm Vocational and Food Security Project will accomplish three goals – it will provide vocational training for 40 people with disabilities that will enable them to secure jobs in the future in the community. It will also provide fresh produce to people who need food security, including children, youth, senior citizens, veterans, Native Americans, diverse groups of immigrants from places like Brazil, Haiti, Cape Verde and Jamaica and people with disabilities. It will also create year-round, full-time jobs for four job coaches.

This funding is a good use of taxpayer dollars because food insecurity on Cape Cod, per the Cape Cod Cooperative Extension, has increased by 53% due to the pandemic. Cape Abilities has a strong track record of working with public agencies like the Barnstable County Commission, Cape Cod Co-Operative Extension, and non-profits like Elder Services of Cape Cod and the Islands and these taxpayer dollars will support this shared mission.

I certify that neither I nor my immediate family has any financial interest in this project.

Sincerely,

William R. Keating Member of Congress